



Six Pre-Reading Skills your child can start learning from birth!

1. Print Motivation

*Begin reading books early and make it a special time, just for you and your little one.

*Let your child see you reading.

*Visit your Library often.

*Stop for a while if your child loses interest or gets upset. Reading should always be enjoyable.

Children who enjoy books will want to learn how to read!

3. Print Awareness

*Read aloud as often as possible — it doesn't matter what it is, it's the reading that is the important part.

*Point to words as you read them aloud, especially words that are repeated.

*Let your child turn the pages.

*Let your child hold the book and tell the story.

*Hold the book upside down. See if your child turns the book around.

Children who are comfortable with print are better readers!

5. Letter Knowledge

*Help your child see the different shapes in letters and numbers.

*Read alphabet books.

*Point out letters anywhere you see them.

*Talk with your child about what is the same and what is different.

*Write your child's name often, especially the first letter.

*Make letters from play dough and play with magnetic or foam letters.

Knowing the names and sounds of letters helps children figure out how to sound out words.

2. Vocabulary

*Talk with your child about what is going on around you. Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you.

*Read together every day — books use words and pictures that are new to your child.

*When your child talks to you, add more detail to what he/she says.

Children with bigger vocabularies are better readers!

4. Narrative Skills

*Tell your child stories. They help children understand sequences.

*Ask your child to tell you about something that happened today. Listen patiently and ask questions.

*Read a favorite story, then let your child "read" it to you.

Being able to tell and retell a story helps children to understand what they read.

6. Phonological Awareness

*Say nursery rhymes often, and make up your own silly rhymes.

*Sing songs. In songs, each syllable usually gets its own note.

*Add actions to songs and poems.

*Play word games like, "What starts with the same sound as ball?"

Being able to hear the sounds that make up words helps children when they are learning to read.



Reading Techniques

Dialogic Reading

How you read to children makes a difference in how ready they are to learn to read. This method is one way of reading with children. It should not be used with every book (i.e. rhyming books or alphabet books).

1. Choose a book that your child already knows well.
2. Ask questions: "What's this?"
"What's going on here?"
Tell me what you see on this page."
3. Follow your child's answers with another question:
"What else do you see?"
"What is happening over here?"
4. Repeat what your child says and expand on it with another piece of information.
5. Help your child as needed. Praise and encourage your child.
6. Follow your child's interests.

Dialogic reading encourages your two- and three-year-old to think and talk by answering open-ended questions.

How to get the most out of your library:

- * Get a free library card.
- * Visit your library often with your children.
- * Get to know your children's librarian—a great resource!
- * Ask where to find alphabet books, fingerplays, nursery rhymes and other great stuff.
- * Check out armloads of materials to use at home.
- * Attend free storytimes and other library programs.

UTAH KIDS READY TO READ ADAPTED FROM EVERY
CHILD READY TO READ @YOUR LIBRARY
THE PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
AND
THE ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY SERVICE
TO CHILDREN
DIVISIONS OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

http://library.utah.gov/utah_kids/index.htm



Talkers Ages 2-3

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.

Why parents are so important in helping their children get ready to read:

- *You know your child best.
- *Children learn when they are in a good mood.
- *Children learn best by doing things and they love doing things with you. Take every chance you have to read with your child, tell and talk about stories, say nursery rhymes and sing songs.

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

Emilie Buchwald

Ask your librarian for the names of appropriate books and library programs that you and your child can enjoy together.

